

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /005 W

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P R 291615Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8314

UNCLAS PORT AU PRINCE 1439

USIAC

FOR IPS, ILA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: ARTICLE IN FRENCH ON ANTHRAX

1. BACKGROUND: SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE BANNED IMPORTATION HAITI GOAT SKIN BONGO DRUMS, GOAT SKIN RUGS, ETC. PURSUANT TO AN AMERICAN HAVING CONTRACTED ANTHRAX FROM SPORES CONTAINED HAITIAN DRUM. BAN CAME AS SHOCK BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC EFFECTS. MAY 11 OFFICIAL NEWS-PAPER LE NOUVEAU MONDE PUBLISHED VIRULENTLY ANTI-AMERICAN ARTICLE. PAO'S REBUTTAL PUBLISHED SEVERAL DAYS AFTER, WITH EDITORIAL CLARIFICATION CONCEDING SOME DEGREE OF ERROR.

2. ANOTHER ARTICLE APPEARED RECENTLY SAME NEWSPAPER. THIS MORE MODERATE IN TONE BUT LIKE FIRST TENDS DOWNPLAY SERIOUSNESS OF DISEASE AND TREATS U.S. MEASURES TAKEN AS DISPROPORTIONATE TO SEVERITY OF PROBLEM AND DIRECTED AGAINST ARTISANS OF POOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY. POST WILL ATTEMPT PLACE IPS ARTICLE REQUESTED BELOW:

3. POST REQUEST WF PIECE POSSIBLY PEGGED RECENT TEXAS OUTBREAK DESCRIBED N.Y. TIMES JULY 17. NEEDED: (A) A SCIENTIFIC PIECE STRESSING SERIOUSNESS OF DISEASE AMONG HUMANS AND ANIMALS. (B) QUOTES FROM DISEASE CONTROL OFFICIALS AND PROMINENT PHYSICIANS AND VETERINARIANS. (C) ECONOMIC EFFECTS IN TERMS OF DOLLARS LOST THROUGH UNAVOIDABLE CATTLE  
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DESTRUCTION. (D) A FOREIGN EXAMPLE OTHER THAN HAITI OF

SUBSTANTIAL HUMAN OR ANIMAL LOSSES DUE TO THE DISEASE. (E)  
PROBLEMS IN WIDE USE OF ANTIBIOTICS TO TREAT HUMANS WHO  
MIGHT BE AFFECTED BY DISEASE--POSSIBLE ABUSE OF ANTIBIOTICS,  
ALLERGIC REACTIONS, HIGH COST TO TREAT LARGE MASSES OF PEOPLE,  
ETC. LE NOUVEAU MONDE ARTICLE CONTENDED IN EFFECT, "WHY DO  
AMERICANS GET SO EXCITED ABOUT THIS DISEASE WHEN ALL THAT IS  
NECESSARY IS TO TREAT PEOPLE WITH PENICILLIN?" (F) LAST,  
BUT IMPORTANTLY, ARTICLE WOULD POINT OUT THAT BAN IMPOSED  
HAITIAN GOAT SKINS IS STANDARD PROCEDURE BANNING DISEASE  
CARRYING IMPORTS FROM ANY COUNTRY AND THAT NO LATITUDE PERMITTED  
PHS IN IMPOSING SUCH INTERDICTIONS. SPECIFIC PRECEDENTS HELPFUL  
AS WELL AS QUOTATIONS FROM HIGH HEW OFFICIALS AND STATE COUNTRY  
DIR OR ASST SEC.

4. AMBASSADOR CONCURS.

5. ID NO. 31HA-75-0013 (IPS).  
PINGITORE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISEASE CONTROL, ANIMAL DISEASES, IMPORT CONTROLS, HIDES & SKINS, SANITATION REGULATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARTICLE IN FRENCH ON ANTHRAX  
**TAGS:** ETRD, EAGR, TBIO, HA, US  
**To:** USIA  
**Type:** TE  
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